South High School Alumni TOOTER

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The Voice of the South High School Alumni Association

CONGRATULATIONS PACKER GREATS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES!

The **Omaha South High Packer Sports Greats Hall of Fame was held 10-14-15** at Anthony's Steak House on 72nd and F Streets. Seven outstanding individuals and one team were honored. Inductees were **Dave McMahill, Louis Secora**, **Mike Schramm, Mike Jones**, and **Guy Urban. Phil Cahoy** received the Contributor Award and Bob Greco, Sr. received the Mentor Award. The 1952 Wrestling team was honored for their outstanding record under **Coach John Zemunski**.

1963-Dave McMahill earned seven varsity letters at SHS:



two in swimming, three in track and field, and two in cross-country (which started in 1961). He was cross-country state champion in 1962; district mile run champion from 1961 to 1963; Columbus Relays, Dutch White Relays, Inter-City mile run champion in 1963, setting records in each event. He was All-Class state mile run champion in 1963, tying the

Class A record. He also played on the unbeaten freshman football team and was a member of the winning Inter-City freshman 880-yard relay team. He was champion in his age group in the AAU Junior Olympics 880 run in 1960 and was second in his age-group in the mile run in 1961. Dave earned his bachelor's degree in Religion in 1967, a Master of Divinity degree from Chicago Theological Seminary in 1970, and additional graduate credits in Psychology from UNL. He is an ordained United Church of Christ minister with past congregations in Nebraska and Minnesota. He also held other prestigious positions with the church and has published religious books for ministries. He has been involved in youth work, refugee resettlement, other charitable organizations, and in the arts.

1964-Louis Secora earned nine letters at SHS: four in baseball, two in football, and three in wrestling. He was All-State in wrestling in 1963 at 145 lbs., and he finished third in 1964 at 165 lbs. He was named All-City in baseball in 1963, and he earned Honorable Mention in 1964. He was cocaptain of the football team and played offensive guard and defensive end his senior year. Louis has been honored by the Omaha South High Packer Sports Greats Hall of Fame four times in the past as a member of the 1962 baseball team, 1962 and 1963 wrestling teams, and the 1963 football team.



Louis served in Vietnam from 1966 to 1968 in the Army. He traveled to Monterey, Mexico, with Bobby Herold, who had played professional baseball there before becoming the UNO baseball coach. They both instructed kids in baseball clinics from 1991 to 1994. Louis also coached 14-year-olds in baseball at Sts. Peter and Paul School in 1962. The team won the

summer league city championships. He also coached a ladies' softball team to a city championship in 1983. Louis worked 27 years, including his service time for the Veterans Hospital, as a carpenter, mason, drywall installer, and plasterer. He retired in 2006.



1972-Mike Schramm earned two letters in football at SHS, and was team captain his senior year. He was All-City, All-State, Second team All-American, and was selected for the Shrine Bowl team in 1972. He has coached youth baseball and soccer for 10 years.

1983-Mike Jones earned eight letters, four in baseball, three



in football and one in basketball at SHS. He was selected to play in both the 1983 Shrine Bowl and the Cornie Collin All Star games. He received All Metro Honorable Mention for football and All State for baseball. While playing college baseball at Miami Dade Community College, he was drafted by the Chicago Cubs where he played for two seasons. He worked for UPS for 10 years.



1970-Guy Urban earned two letters in wrestling and two in football. He also won All-City in football, and started for the UNO football team for two years. Guy coached youth baseball and basketball at Holy Cross Parish. He retired from Omaha Public Power District after 35 years.

CONTRIBUTOR'S AWARD

1956-Philip Cahoy, Sr. competed in gymnastic events from age five through 18, when a knee injury ended his competition. He worked at a missile site for three years before returning to work at Omaha's Western Electric Plant on 67th Street. He also started coaching gymnastics when he returned, opening his own gym more than 30 years ago. His



students included two Olympians: his son Dr. Philip Cahoy, Jr., who is an orthopedic surgeon in Grand Island, NE; and Jim Hartung, who is now an assistant gymnastic coach at UNL working with head coach Chuck Chmelka. He also coached three NCAA champions: Dennis Harrison, Richard Grace, and Jim Hartung. All-Americans he coached are Dave Contreas, who is Ralston

High School's gymnastic coach; Mike Hoskovec, who coaches gymnastics at Millard South; and Chuck Chemelka, who coaches at UNL. Phil also served as the International coach for the United States in Japan, Germany, South Africa, Australia and Italy. He started his Tumble Bus 26 years ago. The bus is modified for children as young as age two to introduce kids in day care to gymnastics and prep them for exercising. He estimates he has taught gymnastics to more than 30,000 youngsters.

MERIT AWARD

Merit award was presented to **1980-Bob Greco** who played football and baseball for three years and basketball for two



years at SHS. He also played college baseball at Indiana University, Iowa Western Community College and Dallas Baptist College. He coached summer baseball at Bryan, South and Fremont and was an assistant coach at Iowa Western and Bellevue Colleges. Bob has been teaching math and coaching baseball at Westside High School for

over 20 years. His Westside teams have won seven high school state championships and six American Legion state

championships. He was picked as the *Omaha-World Herald* 2013 high school Coach of the Year, and the *Lincoln Journal Star's* 2014 high school Coach of the Year. The American Baseball Coaches' Association named him 2014 National high school baseball Coach of the Year. The Westside Legion team (sponsored by KB Building Services) finished third in nationals. Bob continues teaching and coaching at Westside High School.

TEAM AWARD WINNER

Team Award winner was the 1952 Wrestling Team, which was honored for winning 1952 City and State championships. Team members were **1954-Carmine Barone**, **1953-John Cox**, **1954-John Curtis**, **1954-Jim Shaw**, **1952-Joe DiMauro**, **1954-Roy Bravo**, **1953-Dick Jensen**, **1952-Jessie Cardenas**, **1952-Jerry Korisko** and **1952-Bob Jackson**. Their coach was **John Zemunski**.



Rent the office bay adjoining the alumni office for your next baby or wedding shower, birthday party, reception or meeting!

- \$75 for three hours of festivities; \$25/hour for any hour after that.
- Refrigerator, tables & chairs, handicap-accessible bathroom.
- Wi-Fi available.
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MADAME PRESIDENT CAROLE SAFLEY-1976



Carole Safley was elected President of the South High Alumni Association Board of Directors at our October meeting. She joined the Board in 2010 and the Executive Board as Vice President in 2013. At her first Board meeting, she volunteered to chair our annual golf outing which she continues to date. She chairs our Omaha Gives campaign and our inaugural Casino Night fundraiser, and volunteers for every Alumni Association fundraiser and event. She co-chaired and was Master of Ceremonies at the Marlin Briscoe street naming event. Carole's goal is to continue the Association's work toward preserving the rich traditions of SHS through the success of its students, and supporting the faculty/administration. She humbly admits that she had no idea of the scope and magnitude of the accomplishments of the Alumni Association throughout the

years, learning very quickly that they are so much more than "the folks you go to when you're planning a reunion." Carole said she is thrilled to be a part of this fantastic Association.

After graduation, Carole attended UNO in their business program, and later enrolled in Paralegal programs at the College of Saint Mary and Metropolitan Community College. She worked 14 years for the Omaha Police Department, in a clerical capacity, starting in the Records Division and moving to several other divisions including Vice/Narcotics, Organized Crime, Pawn Shop, and Internal Investigations. From 1998 thru 2008, she volunteered with the Millard South Post-Prom event, with the last two years as Chair of the Decorations Committee.

Carole has worked for the Douglas County Sheriff's Office for the past 21 years, beginning as the Sheriff's Secretary in 1995. She is Administrative Coordinator and oversees payroll and personnel. She was instrumental in starting the annual DCSO children's Christmas party, which provides toys for the Marine Toys for Tots campaign and is the coordinator of the Department's annual awards ceremony.

DEAN REZAC ELECTED TO ALUMNI EXECUTIVE BOARD



Vice President **Dean Rezac-1963** is a Charter Member of the Omaha South High Alumni Association and has been actively involved since its beginning. His contributions include volunteering his time and talents to the Green Space Stewardship Project resulting in the beautiful garden area south of SHS; tree removal at Collin Field before the renovation; installation and maintenance of the brick memorial areas at H.P. Smith and Collin Fields as well as the brick "S" in the front of SHS. Dean was instrumental in the Marlin Briscoe street renaming and has been an integral committee member or co-chair of our Alumni Annual Spaghetti Dinner for all 20 years. He was inducted into the SHS Hall of Fame in 1994.

While Dean was Area Superintendent and Vice President of Ronco Construction, he was instrumental in the renovation work at South High, Central High, King Science Center schools, and in building numerous new schools in Omaha, Millard, and Bellevue. He was involved in many other non-school projects before his retirement in 2011. He served as Trustee for Carpenters Local Union 400 and is a member of D.A.V., American Legion, Eagles and the Red Cross Gallon Club. He is married to Alumni Board Member **Candy (Fahey) Rezac-1963**.

LUCKY LOTTERY WINNERS

We thank all of our wonderful alumni for supporting our Annual Lottery and congratulate the following winners: \$2,000-Lisa M. Kammerer of Omaha; \$1,000-**Robert Gillen-1964** of Omaha; \$500 to Mrs. Mary Mollner of Omaha (her husband is **Jim-1964**); \$500 to **John Wiren-1948** of Tampa, FL, \$500 to **Dorothy Prusha-1951**, \$500 to **Frank- 1968** and **Margaret Fonfara-1970** of Omaha.



SHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to:

Organize, develop and build a dynamic group of Alumni. Promote the success of SHS, its students and faculty through a variety of events, projects and scholarships.





Your Board of Directors sponsored the 2015 Hall of Fame and the Packer Sports Greats Hall of Fame, held our first Casino Night and our annual bowling tournament since our last report. We voted for our officers, electing Carole Safley president, and Dean Rezac vice president. We also extended current Board member terms to two years.

Upcoming spring/summer events include our Annual Spaghetti Dinner, Golf Tournament and participation in Omaha Gives. We have applied for a permit to sell Fireworks and will let you know our location via our website and social media if we are successful. Fall events will include the 2016 Hall of Fame Brunch, and the Packer Sports Greats Banquet. Volunteers are needed for all of these activities to help with registration, setup, serving, prize awards, gathering gift certificates and other prizes, selling tickets for prizes and many other duties. If you have time to volunteer, want to buy tickets, or sign up to participate, please let us know. We encourage all alumni, school faculty and administration, and friends of the school to attend and support these events since they directly impact our ability to help our school.

Our last TOOTER with full color had positive comments and we thank you. Please support this newsletter with your annual membership payment and donations. Check out the new envelope design in this issue. More volunteers are needed to scan past TOOTERS in our archives.

We rely on your memorials, donations, clothing and lottery ticket purchases so we can fund scholarships, teacher project requests and provide other financial assistance needed by your school. We are very thankful for any help you can provide, and so are the students and teachers of SHS. Please continue to share your time, talent, and financial support with us. We appreciate your dedication in helping our school.

Respectfully submitted,

Qudi (Clark) Koubsky Secretary

South High School Alumni Association Board of Directors

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Sports Corner

1963-Marlin Briscoe (nicknamed "The Magician") will be inducted into the NFL 2016 College Football Hall of Fame in December 2016 in New York City. We are so proud of this Packer football star who went on to set records and become an NAIA All-American in 1967 at Omaha University (now University of Nebraska at Omaha). He made history by being the first black starting quarterback in the NFL. He was a receiver at Buffalo and then Miami where he helped win two Super Bowls after the 1972 and 1973 seasons.

Mickey Sparano, SHS's outstanding wrestling coach, was inducted into the OPS 10th Annual Athletic Hall of Fame on 11-21-15. His daughter, **Cheryl (Wild) Goodrich**-1968 accepted the award by introducing some of her father's best wrestling team members. Mickey joined the Packer staff to coach wrestling, to serve as the freshman football coach, and to assist the varsity football and baseball coaches. His wrestling teams were undefeated from 1956 to 1960 although they tied once with Central. His teams won many awards and set more records than any other team in Nebraska's history. He was named National Coach of the Year in 1960 and received the 25th Annual Silver Wrestling Invitational Award in 1961. He was named to the Nebraska School Activities Association Hall of Fame in 1984. He was credited with bringing wrestling to the forefront in the OPS system. Sparano left SHS to serve as wrestling coach at UNL in 1960-1961 before retiring. The press release read that Mickey was a Big Eight and AAU lightweight champion, earning four varsity wrestling letters while attending the University of Nebraska. He died in 2002.

BROWN PARK CEREMONY HONORS ELMER WACHTLER

A ceremony was held at Stella Field on 7-9-15 to honor Elmer Wachtler, amateur Omaha baseball player who was killed in action during WWII's Battle of the Bulge. An "Honor and Remember" flag was presented to the family, which included Elmer's son, Jim, who traveled from San Diego with his wife Sarah. Jim was only two years old when his father died. A large crowd, including the American Legion Color Guard, an Omaha Police Department Mounted Patrol and South Omaha City Councilman **Garry Gernandt-1964**, was on hand for the ceremony. Retired Coach **John Stella-1953** and others stated that they use the plaques honoring fallen baseball players to remind the current players of the value of honoring and remembering our veterans.

So You Think You Know South Omaha?

Find the answers to this quiz on our website: www.OmahaSouthAlumni.com

- 1. SHS is the only high school in Nebraska to have two football players named in the circle of honor at Memorial Stadium. Who are they?
- 2. Roseland Center was Omaha's first shopping mall. What is the name of one of the original businesses located in the Center.
- 3. What was the name of the hamburger joint on the corner of 24th and L streets?

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ALUM Notes

Correction to Fall 2015 TOOTER AlumNotes

In the Fall 2015 Alum Notes 1952 Eugene Sempeck, Sr. (who won the 2015 truck) was actually 1957-Eugene Sempek, Sr. We apologize for our error and offer you our congratulations!

1934-Georgina (Kozel) Kiscoan celebrated her 100th birthday on 12-20-15 with a reception hosted by her children Jack Kiscoan-1959, Marilyn (Kiscoan) Dail-1961, and Mardee (Kiscoan) Collingham-1963. We wish you a very happy birthday!

1936-The daughters of their deceased parents 1936-Clara (Brasch) and George Olsen-1922 or 1923, donated Clara's cherished SHS scrapbook to our alumni archives. The daughters are Marilyn (Olsen) Opocensky-1960, Kathy (Olsen) Piksa-1962 and Peg (Olsen) Pelter-1972. We thank you so much for this valuable addition to our collection.

1939-Elizabeth A. (Ziemba) Passanisi celebrated her 95th birthday on 9-28-15. She lives at the Sequoias Senior Life Care Facility in San Francisco. *Happy birthday!*

1943-Benita (Bassett) Lambert's 90th birthday was 11-12-15. Her children hosted an open house celebration on 11-15-15. *Happy birthday!*

1948 Class donated SHS scholarship funds in memory of their classmates. *Thank you for your generosity!*

1949-Jay Morris wrote that he served in the Marine Corps in Korea from November 1950 to November 1951 and is a veteran of the Chosin Reservoir Campaign. He also mentioned his sisters: **Joyce A. Morris-1953** (who was a teacher at Central for many years and for a short period of time she served as Athletic Department head until the person selected could take the job) and **Nancy K. (Morris) England-1955**. *Thanks for the update and thank you for* your service to our country.

1950 Class donated SHS scholarship funds in memory of their classmates. *Thank you for your generosity!*

1953-Violet (Milenkvoich) Cunningham DuRee celebrated her 80th birthday on 9-1-15. *Happy birthday*!

1954-Charles and **Marilyn (Masters) Jansen** celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on 10-30-15 at their home with their children and grandchildren. *Happy anniversary!*

1956-Cathy (Lehman) Trost and her husband, Larry, were married on 1-22-66. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with an open house at St. John's Lutheran Church in Yutan, NE on 1-31-16 following a church service. *Congratulations!*

1959-Robert Bourne and wife, Maureen were married 9-4-65 and celebrated their 50th anniversary with their family. *Happy anniversary!*

1959-Morris "Mike" and **Barbara** (**Guttermeyer**) **Jensen-1964** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on 10-30-65. Mike retired from Avaya and Barb retired from US West. They celebrated with a family dinner and a photo session. *Happy anniversary*!

1959-John and **Marilyn (Sager) Slezak-1960** celebrated their 50th anniversary on 7-24-15. The couple renewed their wedding vows with family and friends in attendance. *Happy anniversary!* **1960-Barbara (Rosinski) Lacoma** and husband, Lawrence Jr., celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on a trip to the Hawaiian Islands accompanied by family members. A marriage blessing and vow renewal took place in Maui on 11-6-15. They were married at St. Stanislaus Catholic Church in 1965 and have three children and nine grandchildren. *Happy anniversary!*

1960-Judy (Sebron) Yacio shared her memories of **Dr. Sebastian "Subby" Zarbano-1941** who died on 11-1-15. She said "Subby and his wife **Louise (Sesto)-1942** are SHS graduates. He was my doctor since I was age 15 and he delivered my baby sister and all three of my children. He also delivered my brother **Frank-1962** and his wife's two children. I've never found another more caring doctor...how blessed we were he was in our lives." *Thank you for sharing your remembrances!*

1961-Denny and Judi (Clark) Koubsky

celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary on 9-30-15 and hosted a



family dinner at Eddie's in South Omaha. They traveled to Paris and Rome last November and to the Caribbean in February this year.

Congratulations!

1961-Vic and Bev (Forman) Riha-1964

were married 9-4-65 and celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary during a Mass with blessing and then partied with family and friends at the Starlight Ballroom in Wahoo, NE. Vic is semi-retired from Wichita Heating and Cooling after 45 years and works a few hours each week. Bev retired from Bellevue Public Schools after 35 years.

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They are both very active in the SHS Alumni Association and the Polka of A's Klub. *Happy anniversary!*

1961-Don and **Kathy (Olsen) Piksa-1962** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in August. They were married on 8-14-65. *Happy anniversary*!

1962-Last month we asked who won the class Homecoming competition and learned that **Tom Rusk** was King and **Bev (Moravec) Krayneski** was Queen. *Congratulations!*

1963-Larry and **Donna (Armbrust)-1966** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on 11-7-15 with a surprise party at the Regency Lake and Tennis Club. *Happy anniversary*!

1963-James Nekuda and wife, Janice, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary 8-16-15 with a celebration Mass followed by an open house at the Knights of Columbus Hall hosted by their family. *Happy anniversary*!

1964-Judy (Gottsch) Everts and her husband, Ron, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on 1-17-16. Their family includes one son and his wife and four grandchildren. *Happy Anniversary! Thank you to Judy's sister, Carol (Gottsch) Stevenson*-1976 for submitting this news!

1964-Betty (Klanecky) Queen was featured in an OPPD 7-19-15 newsletter as a trailblazer by becoming the first female to earn a 1st grade stationary engineer license, the highest grade achievable, and eventually becoming unit operator at North Omaha Station. She also was the first female to earn a 2nd grade stationary engineer license, and for a while, she was the only female coal-fired plant unit operator in the country. She and her husband have retired in the Ozarks and enjoy their 30 acres on which they built an energy-efficient home – designed by Queen herself. Betty started taking herbal medicine classes in 1999 and now grows her own healing herbs. She has presented programs at the local

home and garden show as well as the Ozark Herbal Friends Club. She is also secretary and one of the founders of the local chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society. *Congratulations, Betty for your many accomplishments!*

1964-Chuck and **Carol (Matula) Whitney** celebrated their 50th

anniversary on 7-11-15 with family and friends at the DAV. *Happy anniversary!*

1964-Don and **Diane (Moran) Kostszewa** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on 5-8-15. Family and friends surprised them at Farmer Brown's. *Happy anniversary!*

1967-Harold L. Krueger from Chadron, NE has donated \$100 every year since 2007. *We thank you so much for your kind and generous support!*

1969 Class generously donated \$1,500 for a scholarship which was awarded to **Emily Guadalupe Diaz** last May. *Thank* you so much for providing this generous hand up to a fellow Packer!

1969-Lyle Ward donated two SHS jackets, his band letter sweater and an array of pins. *Thank you for thinking of us.*

1970-Cindy (Hunter) Brock will celebrate her 65th birthday on 3-13-16. She had total knee surgery last July and is doing fine. She is expected to have the other one done in a couple of years. Her niece, Kelly Hunter, is a starter for the Nebraska volleyball team and Cindy and her husband were able to attend one of their games. *Happy birthday and good luck on your future knee surgery!*

1970-Gary Kastrick is working on a book to preserve the history of South Omaha and would appreciate your help. He needs photos showing individuals who owned bars, businesses, restaurants, etc., and family, and/or sports photos. He would borrow the photos, scan them and return the originals to their owners. He has purchased photos from the Durham, Douglas County and the Nebraska Historical Society Museums. The photos will also provide inspiration for a series of murals Gary has commissioned in various SO locations. Each mural will depict SO settlers and their ethnic background. Check out the mural at the Lithuanian Bakery on 33rd and R Streets. Gary said he would appreciate input as far as location and content of future murals. Contact him at gkastrick@yahoo.com or call 402 305 4483. Thank you for preserving our history!

1970-Sherry (Thode) Ward donated her cheerleader outfit and an array of pins. *We appreciate your addition to our archives!*

1971-George Dare has been singing and stirring up the crowd each year



for the Las Vegas Great Santa Run benefiting Opportunity Village, which

works with mentally challenged adults. He wrote their theme song and said that more than 10,000 people dressed up as Santa this year on 12-5-15 for the run. He also provided a link https:// youtu.be/Pip4FHiuErs in which he explains the story behind the song *Silent Night* and another link https:// youtu.be/seHTgsYT4nl to his original Christmas song *It Could Snow Tonight*. *Thanks for all you do to help others, George!*

1971-Ken Stoysich generously donated Stoysich House of Sausage gift certificates for our last spaghetti dinner! *We thank you for helping raise scholarship funds for Packer students!*

1979-Jeff Koterba, award-winning *Omaha World-Herald* cartoonist, was spotlighted in the 12-10-15 edition because of his annual cartoons supporting the *OW-H's* Goodfellows cause which raises funds for Omaha's needy. *Thank you and congratulations, Jeff*!

South High School ALUMNI TOOTER

1991-Susana Lara, inducted in the SHS Hall of Fame this year wrote "I thank you for believing I was worthy of such an honor. Your support for Omaha South is far more than what I have done. I am humbled to be among so many wonderful alumni. I thank you for your continued support for our students. You do so much and ask for so little in return. I am proud to be a Packer." Susana also sent the selection committee chair this message; "Thank you for your dedication to Omaha South and for being the one who made sense of my e-mails and biography. I appreciate your work and am so glad I had the opportunity to meet you. The ceremony was beautiful. I thank you and all of the Alumni Association members." *Thank you for your nice note!*

1993-Paul R. Coate wrote "I just received the Fall issue of the TOOTER, and I always enjoy reading up on what's



happening with fellow alums. I plan to send my \$10 to keep receiving the mailing. I really latched on to theatre and vocal music while at SHS and those years in my arts classes propelled me into what has become a lifelong career as an actor, vocalist, and educator. In the last year, I joined Actors Equity Association (the professional union of actors and stage managers), and I have most recently performed with Children's Theatre Company (the largest children's theatre in America, in productions of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* and *Shrek the Musical*). I made my debut with The Guthrie Theater, the nation's premiere regional theatre in *The Music Man*. I also played the role of 'Enoch Snow' in a staged concert version of *Carousel* with the world-famous

Minnesota Orchestra. My wife and I continue to work extensively as theatre artists and educators while raising a family in Bloomington, MN." *He can be reached at 612-412-7680; www.facebook.com/PaulRCoate; www.twitter.com/PRCoate*

This photo shows Paul in performance as Enoch Snow in *Carousel* (Minnesota Orchestra, with co-star Kersten Rodau). *Thank you for supporting our mission and for the wonderful update!*

1994-Tina (Mehser) Tweedy and her husband Bryan met working at the Red Lion Hotel (now the Doubletree). When dating, they discovered their paths crossed when Tina attended a summer camp where Bryan was a counselor. Bryan proposed and they were married 7-15-95. They celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary this year with their four children. Tina and Bryan opened their own restaurant named Sweets of Eden which has since closed. Bryan is now a foreman with a local ironwork company and Tina was the pastry chef at M's Pub and teaches baking classes. The Bellevue couple still love visiting restaurants and fixing big dinners for family gatherings. *This is a wonderful story!*

Please keep the office informed on any changes to your personal information such as your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, etc. Also if you mark your mail as "Away" at the post office, please let us know when you return home so we can update our records. This will keep our records current for future TOOTER mailings, reunions, etc. Thanks for your help.

VIRTUAL TOURS OF OUR STATE CAPITOL AND GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE ARE IN THE WORKS

1966 Sally Ganem - former First Lady of Nebraska, has raised over \$600,000 for the filming and work required for a virtual tour of our Capitol building and the Governor's residence in Lincoln which will be completed in 2017. In the meantime, a basic tour has been launched which can be accessed via www.nebraskavirtualcapitol.org

Future tours will be tied to 4th grade curriculum in Nebraska schools as part of Social Studies and Arts. The "Golden Sower" atop the Capitol actually gives part of the tour while busts in the hallways tell about themselves and the artist involved in their crafting. NET will own and maintain the website and Sally raised funds to allow for constant updating and maintenance. Sally was honored by the Nebraska Historical Society last October for her work on this project. *What a gift to Nebraskans and we thank you for making this valuable tool available for students and adults!*

CHECK US OUT ONLINE AT

www.OmahaSouthAlumni.com



Don't miss out! Come to enjoy fabulous food, great company, and help South High Alumni Association raise funds for South High School scholarships and teacher special project funds.

Entertainment for all ages provided throughout the evening!



"WE HONOR THE MEMORY OF THOSE WE LOVE THROUGH THE KINDNESS SHARED WITH OTHERS." ANONYMOUS

Memorials were given in honor and memory of the following:

MEMORIALS GIVEN

1925-Marjorie "Marj" (Gran) Houser given by husband Glenn Houser.

1934-Rose (Vosicka) Nemecek given by **Denny** and **Judi (Clark) Koubsky-1961**.

1937-Joe J. Forman given by the Riha Family; also by 1961-Vic and Beverly (Forman) Riha-1964, Alyce D. Slegl-1939, and Denny and Judi (Clark) Koubsky-1961.

1940-Henry V. "Hank" Schultz given by: Jackie (Schultz) Casper-1961, Janette (Czaplewski) Lewis-1968, 1960-Rudy and Judy (Jensen) Tesar-1961, Anthony and Kathleen (Hazard) Prusha-1977, 1961-John and Beverly (Moravec) Krayneski-1962, Janet (Crofford) Katz-1961, Denny and Judi (Clark) Koubsky-1961, Ken and Pauline (Williams) Lundgren-1962, Midge **Bray-1946, 1965-Ed** and **Julie (Riha) Diehm-1966,** Patti Birchall, William and Patricia Kohl, and Gregory and Margo Bray-Hirschman.

1943-Hope L. (Burgoin) Hord given by her husband Norman Hord.

1943-Lt. Col. Richard G. Horak given by his children, Stephanie Strasburg, Tammy Ursenbach, Rick Horak and Shelley Coleman.

1943-Dale I. Marcum given by Kirk A. Marcum, D.D.S.-1972.

1950-Gayle E. (Mertz) Ringo given by her sister, **Beverly (Mertz) Marcheck-1955**.

1956-Nick Chiburis given by **Denny** and **Judi (Clark) Koubsky-1961** and Ronna Kaplan.

1957-Frank Pycha III given by his wife Norma.

1961-Billie Jo Beyette given by 1959-Ferdinand and Janet (Blessie) Pane-1961.

1962-Judy (Calta) Cline given by 1962 classmates Kathy (Olsen) Piksa, Polly Dolezal, Judy (Callahan) Novak, Pat (Novak) Lucas, Lynn Jakub, Shirley (Schroeder) Johnson, Sherry (Lastovica) Blair; and 1963-Cathy (Walker) Hofsheier.

1964-John E. Nemecek given by **Frank Vondra-1960**.

1966-William "Bill" Bezdek given by wife Mary Jo Sacco-Bezdek.

Memorials given to honor friends and relatives of alumni:

Barbara A. Campos of Bellevue died 11-8-15. Memorial given by Denny and Judi (Clark) Koubsky-1961.

Agnes Gilbert, mother of Joyce (Gilbert) Kurtz-1961, died 11-2-15. Memorial given by Denny and Judi (Clark) Koubsky-1961.

Marlene Matsukis of Omaha died 11-19-15. She was preceded in death by her daughter **Jeri Meyers-1972** and is survived by her husband Theodore Matsukis, retired SHS teacher, son **David Meyers-1971** and daughter Johna (Myers) Dueling. Memorial given by **Denny** and J**udi** (Clark) Koubsky-1961.

We apologize for these errors in our last edition and include the corrections below:

1965-Arturo "Junior" Aguilera, Jr. was incorrectly listed as "1969 Arturo "Arthur" Aguilera, Jr." of Omaha died 5-25-15. He is survived by his wife, **Maria (Vazquez)-1969**. Arturo was a Marine Corps. Vietnam war veteran.

1964-John E. Nemecek of Sun City, AZ died 4-30-15 (rather than 4-3-15).

In Memoriam

Memorial Qrayer Gone from us that smiling face, The cheerful pleasant ways, The heart that won so many friends In bygone, happy days. IN MEMORIAM – Spring 2016 1930-Evelyn M. (Flower) Hess of Omaha died 1-9-04. 1930-Mary L. (Kanger) Yeshnowski of Omaha died 12-5-15. She was 100 years, 8 months and 8 days old. 1933-Mary H. (Saniuk) Kadlacz of Omaha died 4-3-10. 1934-Rose (Mikulecky) Paulson of Valley, NE died 10-11-15. 1934-Margaret K. (Trummer) Van Houtte of Omaha died 12-19-14. 1936-Anne M. (Bahun) Barta of Omaha died 8-16-15. 1936-Lt. Col. Bedford B. Bilby of Vero

Beach, FL died 2-28-13.

1936-Jean E. (Bassett) Limas of Omaha died 3-3-14.

1936-William E. Bogatz of Omaha died 2-9-16.

1936-Angela C. (Terrano) Malingagi of Satellite Beach, FL died 11-4-15.

1936-Robert E. Wiggans of Conway, AR died December 2002.

1937-Joseph J. Forman of Bellevue, NE died 8-18-15. He was preceded in death by his wife Evelyn (Novak)-1941 and is survived by daughters Beverly-1964 (Vic-1961) Riha, and Carol-1972 (Wally) Kozicki, and son-in-law Dennis Vanek. **1937-Ruby (Mullin) Wiggans** of Conway, AR died December 2001.

1937-Evelyn C. (Thell) Ross of Omaha died 9-18-08.

1937-Truex Upchurch of St. George, UT died October 2015.

1939-Edward J. Abbott died 8-19-85.

1939-Wilma A. (Bryant) Allen of Omaha died 9-5-15.

1939-Evelyn Ann (Kocol) Galas of Omaha died 7-18-15. She is survived by her husband **Leo-1938**.

1939-Evelyn F. (Steiner) Smith of Omaha died 10-25-15.

1940-Elberta M. Berger of Elkhorn, NE died 1-25-16.

1940-Valerie (Gradina) Thompson of Omaha died 11-3-15. **1940-Henry V. "Hank" Schultz** of Council Bluffs, IA died 12-11-15. He was a WWII and Korean veteran of the Army Air Corps. He was

active in his church and the Masonic Lodge. He is survived by his wife Donna, daughter **Jackie (Schultz) Casper-1961**, and son **Henry Schultz-1969** and families. The family suggested memorials to SHSAA and his church.

1940-Marie K. (Tourek) Sobczyk of Ventura, CA died 7-11-15.

1940-Madeleine L. (Walsh) Abbott of Scottsdale, AZ died 11-8-15. **1941-Mary B. (Barber) Vlassakis** of Omaha died 7-31-15.

1941-Frances H. (Jensen) Norton of Omaha died 11-19-15. She was preceded in death by her husband **Robert-1939**.

1941-Dorothy M. "Dode" Miller of Wahoo, NE died 8-22-15. **1941-Susan (Naple) Tucker** of Omaha died 2-4-16.

1941-Sebastian A. Zarbano, **M.D.** of Omaha died 11-1-15. He served in the Army in the Pacific Theater during WWII. He was awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service at the Battle of Luzon in the Philippines. He is survived by his wife of 69 years, **Louise** (Sesto)-1942 and family.

1941-Ruth A. (Wasielewski) Zeorian of Papillion, NE died 11-2-15. **1942-Harvey Bogenrief** of Ames, IA died 3-13-15.

1942-Alice J. Chadonich of LaVista, NE died 2-3-16.

1942-Leona M. (Dudd) Jungbluth of Omaha died 10-18-15.

1942-Donald D. "Red" Gelster of Bellevue, NE died 1-11-16. He is survived by his wife **Charlotte (Small)-1945**.

1942-Emily L. (Hanzal) Keating of Sparks, NJ died 8-27-15.

1942-Winfred G. "Winnie" (Howell) Van Fleet of Papillion, NE died 8-20-15.

1942-Edgar J. Lang of Omaha died 8-19-15.

1942-AlDona M. (Popek) Laguzza of Omaha died 9-3-15.

1942-Victoria (Rothmiller) Hutchinson-Fleischman of Fort Lupton, CO died 8-10-15.

1942-Mary Ann (Vondra) Boury of Omaha died 2-6-16. She was preceded in death by her husband **William-1939.**

1942-Bertha Jane (Wischmeyer) Zorkowski of Louisville, NE died 8-17-15.

1943-Verion E. Allen of Omaha died 12-12-15. He is survived by his wife **Margaret (Ostronic)-1945**.

1943-Rolland Bott of Salton City, CA died 8-19-15.

1943-Hope L. (Burgoin) Hord of Medford, OR died 6-29-15.

1942-Margaret "Margie" M. (Gruidel) Lynam of Papillion, NE died 1-21-16.

1943-Lt. Col. Richard G. Horak, **Ret**. of Salt Lake City, UT died 12-25-14. His daughter, Tammy Ursenbach, said his life was one of service to his country and community. He served over 40 years in the U.S. Air Force Reserve.

1943-Emily R. (Hospodka) Schmidt of Omaha died 1-16-16.

1943-Joseph "Don" Meier of Omaha died 12-11-15. He spent a lot of time at Brown Park and played on a SHS team that won a city baseball championship. He was an aviation machinist in the Navy after graduation. Don was a pitcher who held Hall of Fame hitter Ted Williams hitless in an intramural military game during WWI. Williams

was a pilot in the Marine Corps at the time and returned to the Red Sox when the war ended. Don attended CU and joined O'Keefe Elevator after earning his business degree. He was inducted into the Omaha Oldtimers Baseball Club Hall of Fame.

1943-Helen C. (Siampos) Muskin of Omaha died 1-19-16. **1944-Lawrence E. Hiatt** of Omaha died 11-19-15.

1944-Eleanor J. "Ellie" (Lanoha) Hanus of Omaha died 1-21-16. **1944-Sylvia A. (Pavlik) Sack** formerly of St. Paul, NE died 9-14-15 in Grand Island, NE. Her daughter Vivian reported that she had chronic lymphedema in her legs but her mind was sharp until the end.

1944-Constantine L. "Gus" Sinos of Omaha died 10-7-15.

1945-Charles L. Arenz of Omaha died 8-11-15. He served in the Navy on an aircraft carrier in the Pacific and when he returned to Omaha he worked in a window department before opening his own business, Arenz Omaha Shade and Blind Co. His charity works were numerous including playing "Chuckles" the clown for the Tangier Shriners, coaching youth softball and baseball teams and serving on the Board of the Siena-Francis House. He and his wife hosted families whose children were hospitalized in Omaha, and they founded a food pantry through their church.

1946-Sarah J. (Aliano) Zuger of Omaha died 9-15-15.

1946-Vivian (Craig) Sainovich of Lincoln, NE died 12-5-15. **1946-Frances (Dyer) Logan** of Winnetka, CA died 4-21-15. **1946-Norma E. (Koons) Corby** of Bellevue, NE died 1-3-16.

1946-Mary C. (Muelleman) Chickinelli of Omaha died 2-10-16.

1946-Anna "Ann" Strnad of Omaha died 11-16-15.

1947-Eleanor M. (Vanslow) Swanda died 9-28-15.

1948-John S. Bolgar, Jr. of Omaha died 10-19-15.

1948-Katherine J. (Griffith) Djureen of Omaha died 10-24-15. **1948-Katherine M. "Coke" (Hubenka) Vana** of Bellevue, NE died 8-18-15.

1948-Raymond "Whiz" Wieczorek of Omaha died 11-24-15. **1948-Elizabeth Ann "Betty" (Holle) Podrazo** of Lincoln, NE died 11-6-15.

1949-Rouene A. (Bors) Mickelson of Omaha died 10-27-15. 1949-Geraldine (Knutson) Busing of Lutz, FL died 8-19-15. 1949-Charles D. Matulka of Council Bluffs, IA died 7-21-15. 1949-Eugene W. "Gene" Narducci of Omaha died 11-9-15. 1950-Duane A. Burson of Plattsmouth, NE died 7-19-15. He is survived by his wife Nadine (Walla)-1950.

1950-William J. Galaska of Tucson, AZ died 4-7-15. **1950-Donald D. Ilich** of Escondido, CA died August 2014, suffering from Alzheimer's disease. He worked for Verizon Telephone Co. for 35 years before retiring. Darlene, his high school sweetheart and wife, wanted Don's classmates to remember him.

1950-Darrell Johnson of Longmont, CO died September 2015. **1950-Gayle E. (Mertz) Ringo** of Bellevue, NE died 11-14-15. Her sister, Beverly, said she was a loyal South Omaha girl.

1950-Raymond H. Perina of Omaha died 1-13-16.

1950-Donald R. Starks of Omaha died 8-22-15.

1950-Elijia "Eli" Velasquez of Omaha died 10-27-15.

1951-Lloyd E. "Breeze" Brazda, Jr. of Omaha died 1-10-16.

1951-Mary E. (Lambrecht) Andersen of Hooper, NE died 4-5-15. **1951-James A. Ripa** of Omaha died 8-21-15.

1952-Virginia C. (Dubas) Stopak of Bellevue, NE died 12-29-15. 1952-John O. "Jack" Kozlik of Omaha died 10-16-15. He is survived by his wife Virgene (Lodes)-1953, son Ken-1979, brothers Ron-1955, Mike-1971 and Doug-1975. John was a truck driver in the Omaha area.

1952-Walter J. Welch, Jr. of Omaha died 11-26-15. **1953-Mary M. Cacioppo** of Papillion died 8-15-15. 1953-Mary Ann (Linhart) Flott of Omaha died 11-27-15.

1953-James Mack of Omaha died 7-16-15.

1953-Virginia M. (Munson) Ourada of Omaha died 1-8-16.

1953-Dorothy "Dottie" (Shelden) Barna of Sun City, AZ died 1-2-16. She was born near Douglas, WY where the family homesteaded from Missouri. She is survived by her husband of more than 60 years, Frank, who was her high school sweetheart.

1953-Robert E. "Bob" Stawniak of Omaha, NE died 1-3-16.

1953-Thomas J. Wees of Papillion died 1-18-16. He was survived by his wife, **Darlene (Schulte)-1953**.

1954-Shirley J. (Cheslak) Vrbanac of Omaha died 1-24-16.

1954-John W. Curtis of Wesley Chapel, FL died 7-24-15.

1954-Vivian F. (Lehman) Murphy of Omaha died 6-6-03.

1954-Rian J. Murphy of Omaha died 12-2-15.

1955-Robert J. Beaudin of Omaha died 11-25-15. He is survived by his wife **Reta (Ryan)-1956**.

1955-Ronald P. Migis of Grove, OK died 1-30-15.

1955-Helen L. (O'Leary) Gard of Omaha died 8-5-15.

1955-Ralph D. "Bud" Oltman of Bellevue, NE died 9-4-13. He is survived by his wife **Beverly (Smith)-1955**.

1955-Robert J. "Bob" Price, Sr. of Omaha died 12-2-15.

1956-Jack D. "Satch" Anderson of Omaha died 12-5-15.

1956-Ronald S. Bojanski, Sr. of Omaha died 9-25-15.

1956-Nick J. Chiburis of Gretna, NE died 10-3-15. He served in the Marine Corp. after graduation and returned to obtain his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from UNO and his Master's at Kearney State College in 1971. He was a professor at the College of Saint Mary and then lowa Western Community College. He was an accomplished artist whose artwork was displayed in many galleries around the Midwest. He was a wrestling coach at Bellevue and Papillion High Schools, and also coached soccer and softball. He refereed the state wrestling tournament until he was 60 years old.

1956-Darlene J. (Snyder) Houston of Omaha died 8-2-15.

1957-Charlene A. (Dunn) Slade of Omaha died 7-23-15.

1957-Robert D. "Bob" Erb of Hemet, CA died 11-20-15.

1957-Frank Pycha III of Fountain Hills, AZ 5-22-13. He is survived by his wife, three sons, and other family members including his brother **John-1959**.

1958-John W. "Cheyenne" Bowen of Omaha died 8-12-15. He quit the basketball team while at SHS to help support his family and later volunteered as a youth coach for CYO for 25 years at Holy Ghost and St. Agnes Schools. As a Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus member, he served as the Council's Pro-Life Director while also working with his wife at NuLife Pregnancy Resource Center, a nonprofit crises center.

1958-Thomas A. Prusha of Omaha died 8-16-15.

1958-Ruth E. Young of Omaha died 12-24-15.

1959-Godfrey A. "Sonny" Calta of Windsor, CO died 11-4-15.

1959-Dorothy (Hagedorn) Jensen died 1-4-13.

1959-Donald R. Jensen of Omaha died 7-30-15.

1959-Mary J. (Kanger) Rydl of Omaha died 7-31-15.

1959-Harry J. Olsen of Omaha died 12-14-15.

1959-Robert G. Stillmock of Denver, CO died 1-9-16.

1959-Richard A. Trapp of Lawton, OK died 11-27-15.

1959-Richard J. Yeshnowski of Omaha died 8-23-15.

1960-Jack R. Hile of Pueblo West, Co died 1-15-16.

1960-James E. Holst, Jr. of Omaha died 12-3-15. He is survived by his wife **Sylvia (Hrdy)-1962**.

1960-Raymond W. Milan of Omaha died 11-6-15.

1960-Carol (Peters) Svoboda of Bellevue, NE died 1-27-16. She is survived by her husband **Ted-1960.**

1961-Gwendolyn "Gwen" (Dodd) West of Oakland, CA died 4-11-15.

1961-Gary D. Kipfer of Omaha died 12-1-15.

1961-Jim S. Marco of Omaha died 10-30-15. He is survived by his wife **Linda (Janulewicz)-1967** and family.

1961-Harold J. "Harry" Olson of Omaha died 12-4-15. He was a

Vietnam veteran and was retired from plumbers local 16.

1961-James M. Rapaich of Council Bluffs, IA died 1-17-16.

1961-Robert J. Zych of Omaha died 9-18-14.

1962-Steven L. Blackenship of Omaha died 12-11-14.

1962-John C. Blum, Jr. of Chandler, AZ died.

1962-Shirley A. (Cernelic) Lohr of Omaha died 12-3-15. She is

survived by her husband **Robert Lohr-1961** and family. **1962-Timothy Jennings** of Topeka, KS died 1-4-15.

1962-Don Mackenzie of Omaha died 4-29-13.

1962-Phillip Taylor of Omaha died 11-2-14.

1963-Gerry R. Earnest of Baton Rouge, LA died 7-23-14.

1963-Donna M. (King) Miracky of Omaha died 9-14-15. She is

survived by her husband of 50 years, **Rich-1960**.

1963-Karen L. (Lewis) Merwald of Omaha died 8-23-15.

1963-John C. Orduna of Los Angeles, CA died 7-27-15.

1963-Michael L. Thompson of Norway, MI died 10-23-15.

1964-Judy Bacon of Fayetteville, AR died 6-22-14.

1964-Carol A. (Bailey) Stump of Plattsmouth, NE died 1-24-16. She is survived by her husband **Jerry -1965**.

1964-Donna June (Baumwart) Jones of Omaha died 12-19-15 of Parkinson's disease. She was active in choir and theater while attending SHS.

1964-Gary Botos of Bellevue, NE died 4-28-15.

1964-Sharon A. (Hayes) Erickson of Omaha died November 2009. **1964-Billy "Bill" Henry** of Papillion, NE died 9-14-15.

1964-Mary Ellen (Holm) Lee of Ashland, NE died 10-29-15.

1964-Brian T. Johnson of Omaha died 10-12-15.

1964-Joann K. (Mackenzie) Benson of Omaha died 8-12-15. She is survived by her husband **Doug-1963**.

1964-Carol A. (Matula) Whitney of Omaha died 12-13-15. She is survived by her husband **Chuck-1964**.

1964-William H. Prescott of Omaha died 9-2-15.

1965-Linda L. (Alton) Underwood of Rosemount, MN died in 2006. 1966-Linda D. (Akeyson) Gaeta died.

1966-William "Bill" Bezdek of Ellisville, MO died 6-12-14.

1966-Steven Delfs of Omaha died.

1966-Theresia J. (Hoffman) Urich of Omaha died 9-27-15.

1966-Ronald M. Kaspar of Omaha died 1-6-16.

1966-Ed J. Lind died 3-27-06.

1966-Gary R. Moore of Omaha died 10-19-05.

1966-Michael E. Moore of Omaha died 2-19-15. After graduation he served in the Marine Corps for two tours of duty in Vietnam and fought in the TET Offensive. He was a member of the US Powerlifting team in Barcelona, Spain in the 1992 Paralympics. Mike was Chief of Prosthetics for 28 years at the VA Hospital and dedicated his retirement years serving and working with veterans. He was an officer and charter member of many military organizations in the area and rode with the "In Country Vietnam Vets Motorcycle Club."

1966-Rollin "Ron" Petersen of Bellevue died 4-3-06. Ron served in the Army in Vietnam.

1966-Dorothy C. (Sautter) Grant died 5-19-09.

1966-Albert E. Schlueter died in 2014.

1966-John Shestak died 9-9-07.

1966-Emma Trackwell of Brunswick, GA died 1-31-15.

1967-Karen S. (Dieter) Svoboda of Bellevue, NE died 1-7-16.

1967-Jay C. Roach of LaVista died 8-9-15.

1967-Thomas A. Sander of Omaha died 7-16-15. 1967-Stephen Sparks of Omaha died August 1985. 1968-Gary Gottsch of Creighton, NE died 6-25-15. 1968-Barbara (Ratigan) Pitts of Corpus Christi, TX died 7-24-15. 1969-Robert "Bob" Swoboda of Papillion, NE died 7-12-15. He was preceded in death by his wife Kathleen (Hospodka)-1969. 1970-David J. Aguirre of Omaha died 8-12-15. 1970- Patrick Cain of Tabor, IA died 5-25-15. 1970-Patrick J. Stanek of Omaha died 12-14-15. 1970-Loretta J. (Sudyka) Erickson of Omaha died 7-26-15. 1971-Rebecca "Becky" (Elliott) Maier of Murdock, NE died 11-7-15. 1971-Joseph H. "Joe" Hrdy of Omaha died 11-30-15. 1971-Denise M. (Shestak) Merriman of Omaha died 9-12-15. 1971-Susan M. (Steinauer) Lewis of Omaha died 10-10-15. 1971-Linda K. Wiggans of Omaha died December 2006. 1972-Dianna (Bermudez) Leuck of Omaha died 11-4-15. 1972-Paulette E. Bolden of Omaha died 7-26-15.

1972-Jeri Meyers of Omaha died September 1976. 1973-Suzanne M. (Kousgaard) Hanson of Council Bluffs, IA died 11-21-15. Her twin brother is Dave Kousgaard-1973. 1974-Edward A. Abraham of Omaha died 2-1-16. 1975-Tyreise Hernandez of Omaha died 12-10-15. 1976-George J. Centamore of Omaha died 8-23-11. 1976-Joyce C. (Mueller) Kocarnik of Omaha died 9-27-15. 1976-Renee M. Nedich of Omaha died 1-9-16. 1978-Betty Jo (Bless) Carlson of Omaha died 11-17-15. 1982-Diana L. Luick of Omaha died 7-15-15. She is survived by her sister Cindy-1983 and brother Kevin-1999. 1988-Marc Manriquez of Omaha died 1-1-16. 1991-Jennifer A. (Kleidosty) Dougherty of Cassville, MO died 12-5-15 1998-Michelle L. Peterson of Omaha died 10-16-15. 2014-JaWaun L. Gaines of Omaha died 12-11-15.

TEACHER DEATHS

Jane Bean, former SHS English teacher, died 9-28-15.

Kenneth Hightower died 8-20-15 at age 94. He is survived by his wife, Jeanne, who wrote that "Ken was so proud of his time as a teacher and Industrial Arts and Vocational Shops department head at SHS." *Editor's Note: Our Spring 2011 TOOTER featured Mr. Hightower.*

FRIENDS OF SHS DEATHS

John Sandoval, Jr., husband of Angeline "Angie" (Grasso) Sandoval died 1-31-16.

FIRST-EVER CASINO NIGHT



The Alumni Association held its first annual Casino Night on Saturday, 2-13-16 at the Serbian Hall. Those in attendance were treated to several casino games to play with their "fun money". Good food and drinks made for a lot of laughter, hooting and hollering throughout the evening, especially at the craps table and roulette wheel. The black jack and Chuck-A-Luck tables were also kept busy. At the end of the evening, guests traded their "fun money" for door prize tickets. Thanks to everyone who attended and supported this event, with special thanks to Vince Riha, Jr. for providing DJ services, and to the following committee members for a great evening: **Julie Diehm, Jackie Dower, Candy Rezac, Bev** and **Vic Riha**, Jen Kracher, **Paul Kracher, Mary Urkevich, Judy Storm, Christine Zorko**,

2016 BOWLING TOURNAMENT FUN

By Denny Koubsky, Chair

The South High Alumni Bowling Tournament on Saturday, 2-27-16 at Mockingbird Lanes started with a noon check in for the 64 bowlers. Many wonderful donated raffle prizes were awarded during the afternoon tournament to alumni, friends, family and teachers. Congratulations to the following winners! Men's game high scores: **Sam Bojanski** – 235 game 1; **Chris Grabenschroer** –251 game 3; **John Mehok** – 256 game 2 and high series 652. Women's game high scores: **Marie Magnussen** – 179 game 1 **Bailey Smejkal** – 197 game 2; **Alisa Vanderpool** – 159 game 3 and high series 484.

TOOTER SCANNERS NEEDED!

Not long after saving a century's worth of school TOOTERS from destruction, the Alumni Association acquired a large-format scanner. Our plan is to scan in each TOOTER and then make them available electronically on our website for alumni and friends near and far to enjoy. If you have any time to spare (Monday through Friday from 8-1:30) and want to see the history of SHS preserved and available to all alumni, contact the office and volunteer to help scan these precious TOOTERS. Training and refreshments provided!

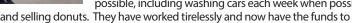
School News

So much excitement this year at our wonderful alma mater!

Band Trip to Washington, D.C.



When we learned the Packer's excellent band was selected to play in a parade in Washington, D.C. on Memorial Day 2016 everyone questioned how the band would pay the huge expense of such an undertaking. Band members from area schools held fundraisers and sent the money to help. The alumni jumped in with open pocketbooks, and the local and national public sent money to help the kids. In addition, band members held every kind of fundraiser possible, including washing cars each week when possible





Luvabulls Perform at Sugar Bowl

Next the fantastic Packer dancers, the Luvabulls, were selected to perform at halftime at the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans last December. The same wonderful, successful fundraising provided these youngsters with memories to cherish forever. And to top it off, the Luvabulls received the Spirit Award at the event because they represented the spirit of the Sugar Bowl by "always showing kindness, respect and leadership." After the team returned, they demonstrated their Sugar Bowl routine during half time at a basketball game and received a standing ovation from attendees. *Congratulations to each team member and their coach Halley Taylor for all their hard work and success!*

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Technology Update

Excitement in the academic areas also, including 600 students receiving tablets and laptops from Lenovo so they can develop apps designed to enrich critical thinking, team building and analytical skills. *Congratulations to Tom Dickey, Information Technology Department Head, for coordinating this outstanding gift*.

Packers Back Goodfellows

Packer faculty and staff were featured in an *OW-H* 12-14-15 article for innovative ideas to raise money for Goodfellows, an *OW-H* sponsored charity to help Omaha's low-income residents. Social Studies teacher Melissa Peterson said that this year a Christmas tree-decorating contest benefitted this organization. Past events included ugly sweater contests and permission to wear jeans in return for donations. Math teacher, Richard Benak, who has taught at SHS for 28 years, said they raised money one year for a student going through chemotherapy and another year for a student whose house burned down. *Congratulations and thank you for your kind hearts!*

Gage Krest Awarded Bicycle

Gage, a senior this year at SHS, spent his summer performing chores and difficult jobs that disabled veterans from Bellevue Post 37 could not do. He was honored by the Post for his outstanding support and assistance by presenting him a Certificate of Appreciation and a 15-speed mountain bike. *Congratulations and thank you for your hard work!*



Sports News

SHS Athletic Director, Dennis Mitchell, invites you to visit the school's sports website <u>southpackerspride.com</u> which shares SHS sports updates with readers. Readers may link to other websites, including our alumni website <u>www.OmahaSouthAlumni.</u> <u>com also</u>.



A Night with The Magician – Celebrating Omaha's Marlin Briscoe (a 1963 South High alum!)

Be part of Omaha history on Thursday, 9-22-16 at Baxter Arena (on UNO's campus) for a celebration with Marlin Briscoe, a pioneer in professional football. Marlin played for the Denver Broncos as the first black starting quarterback and went on to lead the Miami Dolphins in their undefeated 1972 season. Marlin will be recognized for his achievements and given the send-off he deserves as he makes his way to the College Football Hall of Fame ceremony in New York. This event will be the talk of the town with sponsorship and opportunities to purchase group tables. Please contact Terry Hanna of University of

Nebraska Foundation at 402-502-4106 terry.hanna@nufoundation.org for more information.

We are #1!

The boys' basketball team was rated #1 after winning the Metro Holiday Conference and starting the New Year still unbeaten. *Congratulations*!



DISTRICT WIN LEADS TO STATE TOURNAMENT

SHS Basketball players celebrate winning the District title by defeating Burke 83 to 50 on 2-29-16. *Congratulations!*

In football, **Noah Fant** was named All-Nebraska Defense. He was nominated because of his strong desire and passion to be great according to Coach Chris Fant. Noah made 46 catches for 10 touchdowns and 570 yards. Teammates **Monte McGary, Makoor Arop, Tristen Anderson** and **Jalen Tate** were all Class A Honorable Mentions this year. *Congratulations!*

A new wrestling program is underway for youngsters that should make us a future powerhouse in that sport as well. Success at track for girls and boys and at soccer this year adds to the school pride of being part of the Packer family. *Congrats and good luck to all of you!*

1993- Chris Sidzyik is the Packer's new head wrestling coach. He has lived in South Omaha his entire life and is the first of eleven kids



to graduate from college. He started wrestling as a high school sophomore at South. His wrestling coach, Greg Wilcox, took him to UNO, introduced him to Coach Denney, and walked him through registration. He said he would never have dreamed he could have attended college, but wrestling changed his life. He worked in the

trucking industry after college, but returned to UNO as assistant wrestling coach for Coach Denney. He obtained his master's degree in education from the College of Saint Mary. Chris served as physical education teacher at Marrs, was head wrestling coach there for the past four years, and was assistant wrestling and football coach at South.

For the past two years, Sidzyik has also been the head coach and director of SOPAT, a youth wrestling club based out of South that Coach Wilcox started over 20 years ago. Under Sidzyik, the program has grown from around ten to just under 100 wrestlers. Sidzyik said that SOPAT is a community effort with support coming from the South High Alumni Association, the Omaha Police Department and the Latino Police Officers Association, local businesses, and partnered OPS elementary schools. He has also enlisted family members, brothers Nick and Bob Sidzyik, his wife, Rebekah, and former State wrestling champions **1999-Jason Sheard**, another South alumnus, and Chris and Shane Minardi.

"Our goal is to make South Omaha the wrestling powerhouse it once was. Wrestling is the perfect sport for South Omaha. It requires a lot of hard work that rests on the shoulders of the individual, something the people of South Omaha know a lot about," Sidzyik said. *Good luck!*





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ART IN THE HEART OF SOUTH OMAHA

South High Magnet School is embarking on a capital campaign to raise 10-12 million dollars for a new visual and performing arts center.

A number of the courses in visual and performing arts are "maxed out," with no possibility of accepting additional students because there is no more space!

These unique programs have seen unprecedented growth as shown below:

Building on Excellence

Enrollment Increases in Upper-Level Courses for 2015-16:

Honors Symphonic Band - 20% Orchestra - 19% Ambassadors Show Choir - 105% Honors Studio Art - 14% Guitar 5/6 - 36% Advanced/Honors Piano - 10% Marching Band - 38% Honors Concert Choir - 10% Pottery 3/4, 5/6, AP - 44% Senior Studio Art - 63% Dance 3/4, 5/6, 7/8 - 28% Honors Figure Drawing - 68%



But there is more to the story than quantity. The rigor and challenge of these programs is unmatched in the metro area. Over 70% of our visual and performing arts students are consistently on the honor roll. The honors and accolades continue for these talented students:

• South's Marching Band will represent Nebraska at the 75th Memorial Day Parade in Washington, DC. Ninety-four students will travel to Washington next May to represent our school, community and state;

South's Concert Choir performs yearly with the Omaha Symphony Chamber Orchestra, in Christmas at the Kroc;

• In 2014, our honors guitar 5/6 ensemble was the first guitar group ever selected to perform at the Nebraska Music Educator's Convention;

• Our visual artists are working on the South Omaha Mural Project, partnering with the South Omaha Business Association, the Nebraska Arts Council, the Omaha Mayor's Grant, and the City of Omaha Historical Fund;

• Our music program received the Grammy Foundation's 2014 Signature Schools Community Award;

• We received the 2015 Nebraska Music Educators Award of Excellence for our music program;

• Our thespian troupe was invited to perform at the International Thespian Festival in June 2016;

• UNO added a dance minor this year, because of our dance program and the number of students wanting to pursue dance at the college level.

The new visual and performing arts addition will include the following:

- 2 Dance studios
- 1 Music Tech/Film Lab 2 Pottery Studios
- Art Gallery
- Black box theatre
- 1 Guitar Lab
- •2 Piano labs
- •4 Visual Arts classrooms
- •Updated Choir and Band classrooms

The architectural firm, BCDM, has created the plans for the new addition, which will be located at the south end of the building.

With the help of a national fundraising company, we have begun raising money for this project. The Steier Group is providing a capital campaign manager, Vice-President Keith Allerton, as well as marketing and graphic design assistance, with a goal of breaking ground in the fall of 2017. Donations are being accepted through the Omaha Schools Foundation.

If you would like additional information, please contact:

Rebecca Noble, Magnet Facilitator and Curriculum Specialist for Visual/Performing Arts 402-557-3677 rebecca.noble@ops.org











Lincoln 402.477.4747 • Nebraska City 402.873.8888

2016 REUNIONS

1951 class will hold its 65th reunion at 11:30 a.m. on Friday 9-16-16 at Gorat's Steak House, 49th and Center St. There will be no reminder mailings. All classmates and spouses are welcome to attend. You only pay for what you order. If you need more information contact **Donna (Untiedt) Krambeck** at 402-331-6955.

1955 class meets the second Tuesday of each month at 12:30 for lunch at the GI Forum. All classmates are invited. If questions contact **Karlene "K.T." Deja** at 402-733-6303.

1956 class reunion date is mid-September 2016. We are working on a two-day event, a catered banquet on Thursday evening at Horsemen's Park and attendance at SHS's homecoming football game on Friday night. This will most likely be the last preplanned event for our class. Reunion contacts are **Bob Fitzsimmons**, mrbobfi@msn.com (402/397-9025) or **Lucy (Wilke) Burrell** Imburrell@cox.net

1958 class reunion date is 6-9-16 (Thursday) at Brewsky's - 8528 Park Dr. in Ralston at 6:00 p.m. Contact **Angelo Perry** 402-391-2109 for questions.

1959 class reunion date is 7-9-16 (Saturday) at Brewsky's - 8528 Park Dr. in Ralston at 6:00 p.m. This event will be a no-host casual get-together to reminisce about the "good ol' days." Contact **Kathy (Coco) Wieczorek** at cocowiz@cox.net if further information is needed.

1961 class 55th reunion date is Friday, 6-10-16 at Circle "C" Party Barn, 12118 S 36th St, Bellevue, NE with social hour at 6 p.m., buffet dinner 7 p.m., program and music to midnight. Cost \$25.00 per person. Watch for April mailing. If questions, call reunion chair **Jackie Casper** at 402-598-4914. NOTE: We have reserved a 1961 table at the 1960s Decade Dance Reunion at German American Home on Saturday 6-11-16.

1963 class will have a TGIF get together on 7-29-16 at the Red Eye Tavern, 84th & Center at 6 pm. This will be an annual event on the last Friday in July. Watch for reminder mailing.

1964 class will get together on 7-8 from 6:30 p.m. until ??? at the Comfort Inn, 72nd & Grover St. in Omaha. Food and drinks are available for your purchase. Hope to see you there.

1966 class 50th reunion at Aspen Room - 9809 M St. - Omaha, NE. Social 6 to 7; buffet dinner and dance 7 to 11 p.m. Cost \$50 per person (or \$65 each for both reunion and Decade Dance) payable to South High Class of 1966. Mail to **Hilda (Feiste) Gurwell**, 3630 Monroe St, Omaha, NE 68107. If questions contact Hilda at 402 578-2509 or email hfgurwell48@cox.net

1966 class will host a 1960s Decade Dance Reunion on Saturday 6-11-16 at the German American Home with \$25 per person tickets available through the South High Alumni office by credit card (402-738-9493) or by check to SHSAA mailed to 5082 S. 107th St 68127. See flyer in this issue, or if questions contact **Michelle (Weber) Zbylut** via e-mail mickijo3@msn.com **1971** class reunion will gather for a one-night event at the DAV Hall, 4515 F St on Saturday 7-23-16 from 5 pm – 11pm. Ticket Prices TBA. Reunion contact is **Howard Koziol** e-mail hkozioljr@cox.net

1972 class new reunion date is 5-7-16. Because there was such a great turn out, our next get-together has been changed to Saturday at 6:30 p.m. at Lansky's party room. Parking is in the rear. Hope you can all come!

1975 class see your invitation below to join the 1976 reunion on 7-30-16.

1976 class reunion date is Saturday, 7-30-16 at 6:30 pm to 11:30 pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall - 4323 Washington St. in Omaha. We are opening our reunion up to the 75-77 classes. Contact if questions is **Annie Foral Dibelka**– 402-734-0296 or adibelka@ hotmail.com

1977 class see your invitation above to join the 1976 reunion on 7-30-16.

1986 class 30-year reunion dates are 7-8 and 7-9-16. Contact is **Angie McQuinn-Lovings** 402-490-7612, Facebook is angelakmcquinnreunion and email is omahasouth86@yahoo.com

2001 class 15-year reunion. Please search Facebook for 2001 Omaha South High Reunion for more details. Contact is **Lenli Corbett** 402-850-0611 or lenlicorbett@yahoo.com

2017 REUNIONS

1967 class 50th reunion is 8-25 and 8-26-17. Please provide your email address to: shsalum1967@gmail.com

1972 class 45th reunion is Saturday, 8-19-17 at Horsemen's Park in the north end room from 7 p.m. until 11 p.m. A "Save the Date" letter will be sent later this year and more information mailed in 2017.

If anyone has information on pending reunions, please call the office at 402-738-9493 with contact information.





5802 S. 72nd St. **RALSTON, NEBRASKA 68127**

FRED KRAYNESKI General Manager

13776 MILLARD AVE.

OMAHA, NE 68137

(402) 932-4575

(402) 331-0377

OMAHA SOUTH ALUMNI GEAR Description Sizes (circle) Color Price Total

Hats

Hats										
"SOB" Baseball Hat	"SOB" Baseball Hat SOB embroidered in white (on red hat) and red (on white hat) & 'South Omaha One Size			Red	\$15.00					
	Boy' embroidered in black below.							White		
SHSAA with Bull Baseball Hat	Baseball hat with Omaha South Alumni and the Packer Bull embroidered on it.	Or	One Size					Red	\$15.00	
"S" Baseball Hat	Baseball hat with red 'S' embroidered on it.	One Size					Black	\$15.00		
Alumni Visor	Visor with SHSAA logo. Attaches with velcro.	One Size -					White Red	\$15.00		
T-Shirts (short-sleeved)	·									
"00D"	Screen-printed t-shirt with SOB (in white	•				0.1	a ¥	Red	¢40.00	
"SOB"	on red and red on white) & 'South Omaha Boy' in black below.	S	M	L	XL	2X	3Х	White	\$16.00	
Alumni	Red screen-printed t-shirt with Packer bull logo and Omaha South Alumni in white.	s	м	L	XL	2X	зх	Red	\$16.00	
Alumni-round logo	Screen-printed t-shirt (red, black or gray)	s	м	L	XL	2X	зх	Red	\$16.00	
	with round SHSAA design.	3		L .	~	. 27	37	Black		
Alumni, Packer Pride	screen-printed t-shirt with Packer Pride	м	L	XL	2X	зх		Red Black	\$16.00	
Alumin, racker ride	Omaha South Alumni across the chest.									
Sweatshirts										
		S	м	L	XL			Red	\$30.00	
		2X							\$35.00	
Crewneck Sweatshir	Crewneck sweatshirt with 'Omaha South High Alumni' embroidered across the		L	XL				Grey	\$30.00	
	chest.	2X	3X					5	\$35.00	
		M	L	XL				Black	\$30.00	
		2X	3X						\$35.00	
Other Items										
Koozie	Red collapsible koozie with white SHSAA logo.	One Size			Red	\$1.00				
Shipping										
Please add \$5.00 to your order for shipping and handling on the first item.						\$5.00				
Add \$3.00 for each additional item.					\$3.00					
Total					\$					
									-	

My check (payable to SHSAA) is enclosed in the amount of \$_____ (which includes \$_____ for shipping & handling). *Credit cards are also accepted, please call the office (402-738-9493) to pay with a credit card.

Remember you can also view or purchase alumni gear anytime at <u>www.OmahaSouthAlumni.com</u> or at any of our annual events.









ONE OF A KIND! HAND-CRAFTED HUSKER QUILT

Tickets: \$2 each or 3 for \$5 Drawing: April 23, 2016 (at the Spaghetti Dinner)

FINE PRINT Need not be present to win. Limited number of tickets will be sold.



Tickets are available at the SHS Alumni Assn. Office and will also be sold at the Spaghetti Dinner.

2016 Calendar of Events

- 4-9 Alumni Board Of Directors Meeting at Alumni Association Office, 9:30 a.m. March Spring 2016 TOOTER mailing.
- 4-23 Spaghetti Dinner at Gateway Elementary, 5610 S 42 St., 4 to 7:30 p.m.**
- 5-18 SHS 2016 Graduation at UNO Baxter Arena near 65 & Center Street.
- 5-25 Omaha Gives! Online fundraiser midnight to midnight.**
- 6-11 60s Decade Dance, German American Society at 3717 S 120th St., 7-11 p.m. Contact Alumni Association office for tickets.**
- 7-9 Alumni Board of Directors Meeting at Alumni Association Office, 9:30 a.m.
- 7-17 Packer Greats Golf Tournament at Eagle Hills Golf Course, 501 Eagle Hills Dr, Papillion. Shotgun start at 7:30 a.m.**
- Aug. SHS first day of school.
- 9-11 16th Annual Lottery begins.
- 9-22 A Night with the Magician -Marlin Briscoe-1963. Evening celebration at Baxter Arena (on UNO campus). Contact Terry Hanna 402-502-4106 terry.hanna@nufoundation.org (see page 14 for more information)
- 9-23 SHS Homecoming Football game.
- 9-24 2016 Hall of Fame Brunch at Livestock Exchange Bldg., check in 9:30 a.m.**
- Sept. Fall 2016 TOOTER mailing.
- 10-26 Packer Sports Greats Banquet at Anthony's Steak house-5:30 social cash bar; dinner 7:00 p.m.**

**See flier in this issue.



1	maha South High Magnet School
When:	Saturday, September 24, 2016 at 10:30 a.m.
Where:	Livestock Exchange Building
Price:	\$25 per person
Reservations:	Required in advance. Cash, checks and credit cards accepted.
Call SHSAA Offi	ce (402-738-9493) for reservations.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

Please consider supporting the SHS Alumni Association to help us continue to establish scholarship memorials, fund teacher special projects, and provide other financial assistance needed by South High School.



Donate, send in your membership dues, give a combined class gift when your reunion comes around, and remember us in your will.

Your tax-deductible contributions can be made online using PayPal (no PayPal account required), by a check, or by credit card on this form or by calling in to the alumni office.

Count me in! I want to be a Packer Backer!

I wish to provide support with:

\$1,000+ (Platinum)	🖵 \$500 (Gold)	🗅 \$100 (Silver)	1	\$50 (Bronze)
□ \$30 (Booster)	\$10 (Postage Fee)	🛛 Other \$		

Form of Payment

Check payable to South High School Alumni Association

Credit Card	O Visa	O MasterCard	O AmEx	O Discover		
Card No:			Exp. Date:			
Signature			CIE) #		

*Credit cards can also be taken over the phone, please call the office at 402-738-9493.

First Name:	Last Nam	Last Name: Class Year: ((f applicable)				
Maiden: (if applicable)	Cla					
Address:						
City:	State:	Zip Code:				
Phone: ()	Email:					

Send completed form along with donation to the address below: South High School Alumni Association 5082 South 107th Street | Omaha, NE 68127 ALUMNI TOOTER SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 5082 SOUTH 107TH STREET OMAHA, NE 68127 402-738-9493

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1960-1969 Packer Alumni

Come to the Second 60s Decade Dance

Hosted by the **Class of 1966** Sunday June 11, 2016 at German American Society 3717 S. 120th Street 7 to 11 p.m. - cost \$25

Last one sold out so get your tickets from the Alumni office soon!